(c) The per capita income of the country was Rs. 20989/- in 2003-04. The poverty line for all India has been taken to be Rs. 327.56 per capita consumption expenditure for rural areas.

(d) Government is implementing a number of schemes for development of the Agriculture, Horticulture and Livestock sectors. Most of these schemes have special assistance components for small and marginal farmers. The strategies formulated by the Government for making the' agriculture sector more vibrant and dynamic so as to increase its production and productivity with resultant increase in the income of farmers in general and small/marginal farmers in particular include (i) enhancing institutional credit flow to the farmers and strengthening of cooperative credit structure; (ii) ensuring the timely availability of quality inputs; (iii) promoting farmer friendly, demand driven agriculture extension system; (iv) accelerating diversification to high value crops including horticulture activities; (v) strengthening infrastructure and the supply chain; (iv) optimizing the efficient utilization of available water resources through micro irrigation and enhancing the sustainability of dry-land/rainfed farming system; (vii) reforming agricultural markets, and widespread use of post harvest technology; and (viii) putting in place a broader spectrum of risk management apparatus for farmers.

Supplying Urea and DAP to States

289. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Urea and Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP) fertilizers are in great demand in some States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether these fertilizers are supplied to States for the use of farmers as per their requirement?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) For the current Rabi 2005-06 season, demand/requirement of Urea and DAP has been assessed at 119.86 lakh metric tonnes and 44.58 lakh metric tonnes respectively in consultation with States, Department of Fertilisers, Fertiliser suppliers/manufacturers and Fertiliser Association of India. These are higher by 10.63% and 13.18% respectively as compared to the Rabi 2004-05.

(c) Yes, Sir.